**Gaius Julius Caesar, *De Bello Gallico,* Liber Primus Capita II-IV.**

*translatio Anglicê a Magistro LaFleche*

II. In the Helvetian tribe there was a very noble and wealthy individual named Orgetorix. When Marcus Messala and Marcus Piso were consuls, Orgetorix, seduced by the allure of royal power, assembled a secret meeting of the nobility and persuaded the state to migrate from their homeland with all their belongings. He assured them that it would be easy to take control of all of Gaul, since they surpass all others in their courage. He persuaded them quite easily, since everywhere the Helvetian territory was bordered by natural defenses. On one side was the very wide and deep Rhine river, which divides Helvetian land from the Germans. On the other side is the very high Jura mountain, which is between the Sequani and the Helvetians. On a third side is the Lemannus lake and the Rhone river, which divides our province from the Helvetians. Because of these boundaries, it thus has come about that they do not wander widely not easily wage war in neighboring lands. Due to this, this people, obsessed with warmongering, has been motivated by a great frustration. Moreover, because of the size of their population and the glory of war and military prowess, they judge their territory to be narrow, which is 240 thousand feet long and 180 thousand feet wide.

III. Convinced by all this and motivated by the authority of Orgetorix, they decided to prepare that which is pertinent to migrating. They set about collecting as great number of carts and yolks as possible,sowed as much grain as they could, so that a surplus of grain would support them on their journey. They also enacted peace and friendship with the closest tribes. They considered two years to be enough for them to accomplish these tasks. They set the third year as the date of departure by law. Orgetorix was chosen to carry out these tasks. He set out to nearby tribes as an ambassador. On this journey he convinced Casticus, son of Catamantaloedes, to seize the throne in his tribe which his father had held before. Casticus was a Sequanus, whose father ruled the Sequani for many years, and who was named a friend of the Roman people by the Senate. Orgetorix also persuaded Dumnorix the Adrian to do the same in his tribe. Dumnorix is the brother of Diviacus, who held the magistrate in his tribe at that time, and who was widely liked by the common people. Orgetorix also gave his own daughter to Dumnorix as a bride. He assured them that accomplishing what they’re attempting would be easy to do, especially since he himself would take control of the government of his state: he also assured them it was not doubtful that Helvetii had the most power of all of Gaul. He affirmed that he would unify their kingdoms by his army and his soldiers. Convinced by this speech, they swore an oath among themselves and, once the had taken power in their kingdom, they hoped they could take possession of the entirety of Gaul through these three most powerful and hardy peoples.

IV. This plot was announced to the Helvetii through a court. As per their custom, they forced Orgetorix to plead his case in chains. Punishment necessarily followed—he would be burned by fire. On the chosen day of pleading his case, Orgetorix brought his whole family—nearly 10,000 men—from everywhere, and also led to the same place all his clients and debtors, of whom he had a great number. Through them, he stole himself away so to not plead his case. When the citizenship, riled up due to this situation, attempted to execute their own vigilante justice by sword, and the magistrates collected a mass of men from the fields, Orgetorix died. Yet there is suspicion, as the Helvetii think, that he committed suicide.